14th February 1959]

Family planning

* 335 Q.—Sri N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have deputed any officer to China to examine and report on the family-planning programmes carried out there?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU: No, Sir, not any officer of Government.

* 336 Q.—Sri S. LAZAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state, consequent on the steps taken by the Government to popularize the practice of birth control, whether any complaints that they have resulted in wounding the religious feelings of Hindu, Muslim and Christian population in the State have been received?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU: No, Sir, except from a section of the Catholic community.

* 337 Q.—Sri A. A. RASHEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to award cash prizes to couples married ten years ago but having a family of only two children, as a measure of family-planning?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU: No, Sir.

* 352 Q.—Sri K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether doctors were sent to the Family Planning training and Reesarch Centre, Bombay; and

(b) if so, the number and the nature of training they received?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU: (a) & (b) One Woman Assistant Surgeon attached to Government Hospital for Women and Children was sent for training for a period of ten days.

The training consisted of visits to the Family Planning clinics run by the All-India Family Planning Association in Bombay City and two other centres. Instructions were given in the technique of contraception. A study of the method of history—taking, maintenance of case records and follow-up of patients also formed part of the training programme.

Sri A. A. RASHEED: Is the Hon. Minister aware that one of the Tamil dailies is wrecking the programme by awarding cash prizes to large-sized families? If so, will the Government award cash prizes to small-sized families and encourage family planning?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU: அப்படி பரிசு வழங்கப் போவதால் இந்தத் திட்டம் அடிபட்டுப் போய்விடும் என்று சொல்வதற் இல்லை. ஒரு கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவ்வாறு செய்கிறார் என்றால், குறைந்த குழந்தைகளைப் பெற்றுள்ளவர்களுக்கு இந்த கனம் அங்கத்தினர் பரிசு கொடுக்கலாம்.